

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 02905 312241Z

60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SCA-01 JUSE-00 SEC-03 DRC-01 /103 W

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R 312050Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7700

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY TO INVESTIGATE VESCO ARMS

1. MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY, MARIO CHARPENTIER, TOLD REPORTERS YESTERDAY (JULY 30), IN REFERENCE TO AN AP DISPATCH ALLEGING VESCO HAS IMPORTED ARMS AND PROSTITUTES INTO COSTA RICA, THAT WHILE HE KNEW THAT NO ARMS HAD COME INTO THE COUNTRY SINCE HE HAS BEEN OCCUPYING THE MINISTRY, HE WILL NEVERTHELESS LAUNCH AN INVESTIGATION TO CLEAR UP THE ALLEGATIONS.

2. APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO THE MINISTER'S INTENTION TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, ROBERT VESCO SENT HIM A LETTER (ALSO ON JULY 30) WITH COPIES TO THE PRESS WHICH CATEGORICALLY DENIED THE CONTENTS OF THE AP ARTICLE. VESCO'S LETTER TO CHARPENTIER REFERRED VAGUELY TO AN UNIDENTIFIED SOURCE (PRESUMABLY THE USG) WHICH IS CONTINUING ITS INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST HIM. VESCO DENIED THAT THE AIRCRAFT MENTIONED IN THE AP ARTICLE BELONGED TO HIM, STATED HE HAD NOT BEEN IN THE U.S. FOR SEVERAL YEARS, AND OFFERED HIS FULL COLLABORATION IN ANY INVESTIGATION. VESCO ENDED HIS LETTER WITH, "ONE DOES NOT NEED MUCH IMAGINATION TO GUESS THE ORIGIN OF THESE BADLY DISGUISED PRESSURES."

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3. COMMENT: THIS LATEST INCIDENT INVOLVING VESCO
COMES AT A PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TIME FOR HIM WHEN
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY JURIDICAL COMMITTEE IS ACTIVELY
CONSIDERING WHAT TO DO WITH THE CONTROVERSIAL PRO-VESCO
EXTRADITION LAW. INDICATIONS EMANATING FROM THE
ASSEMBLY SUGGEST THAT THE COMMITTEE SEEMS TO BE
DISPOSED TO RECOMMEND DEROGATION OF THE NEW LAW IN
FAVOR OF THE GENERALLY CONSIDERED SATISFACTORY AND CAREFULLY
DRAFTED EXTRADITION LAW OF 1971.
LANE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, EXTRADITION, LAW, ARMS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANJO002905
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740209-0011
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
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Review Comment: n/a
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Review Date: 11 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005